

attribute them to accidental circumstances would be, not merely to acknowledge ignorance of the matter, but to express that ignorance in most objectionable terms. The obscurity in which the origin of these remarkable phænomena is involved, careful investigation, conducted upon sound philosophical principles, can alone dispel.

XXVII.—*Description of a new species of Carex found near Hebden Bridge in Yorkshire.* By CHARLES C. BABINGTON, M.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., &c.*

[With a Plate.]

It is now nearly two years since Mr. S. Gibson of Hebden Bridge was so kind as to forward to me a *Carex*, which he had reason to believe would prove to be an undescribed species. At that time he had only ventured to publish it in Baines's 'Flora of Yorkshire,' as a variety of *C. cæspitosa* (Gooden.), but in his letters to me he expressed a decided opinion that it was distinct from that species. Although convinced that it was indeed distinct from *C. Goodenovii* (*C. cæspitosa*, Gooden.), it is only within the last few days that I have been enabled to examine its characters with the requisite care to qualify myself to publish it as a true species, and to study the descriptions and figures in the works that treat of this genus, so as to be enabled to say with confidence that it is an undescribed plant. As I have convinced myself of this, I have now the pleasure of naming it in honour of its discoverer, than whom no person can be more deserving of commemoration by means of a plant of this genus, to the careful study of which he has long and successfully applied himself.

CAREX GIBSONI.

C. spica mascula solitaria, femineis 2—4 oblongis basi attenuatis, infima breviter pedunculata, bracteis foliaceis, stigmatibus 2, fructibus lanceolatis in rostrum breve integrum attenuatis multinerviis gluma $\frac{1}{3}$ longioribus, acheniis late-obovatis apice rotundatis apiculatisque. Pl. V.

C. cæspitosa, β . chlorocarpos, *Gibs. in Baines's Fl. of Yorkshire*, p. 143.

Root creeping. Stems 6—8 inches high, triquetrous with flat or concave faces, the angles rough towards the top. Leaves from near the base of the stem, and usually about equalling it in height, flat, slender, slightly rough at the edges and midrib beneath, particularly towards the end. Bracts without

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Trichormus incurvus.

Carex Gibsoni.